



# **GREENSBORO URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

## **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of May 27, 2004**

**3:00 p.m. Greensboro, NC**

**Blue Room**

**(County Commissioners' Briefing Room)**

**Old Guilford County Courthouse**

### **TAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sandy Carmany	TAC Chair
Jim Westmoreland	TCC Chair
Robbie Perkins	Greensboro City Council
Mary Rakestraw	Guilford County Board of Commissioners

### **ATTENDANCE**

Tyler Meyer	GDOT/MPO	Robert Gordon	Town of Summerfield
Craig McKinney	GDOT/MPO	Michael Brandt	Town of Summerfield
Peggy Holland	GDOT/MPO	Stephen Stansbery	Kimley-Horn Associates
Scott Rhine	PART	Don Bryson	Martin-Alexiou-Bryson
Patty Eason	NCDOT, Division 7	Jody Lewis	Martin-Alexiou-Bryson
Marie Sutton	NCDOT, PD&EA	Brian Wert	Martin-Alexiou-Bryson
Ed Lewis	NCDOT, PD&EA	Bill Gordon	

Sandy Carmany called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

### **Action Items**

#### **1. Approve Minutes of May 27, 2004**

Robbie Perkins moved for approval of the minutes. Bob Landreth seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes as prepared.

## **2. Resolution of Support for Modification of Project R-4707**

Tyler Meyer noted that a recent feasibility study of improvement needs on Summit Avenue from Brightwood School Road to Reedy Fork Parkway (formerly Eckerson Road) indicated the need to revise the project limits of R-4707. The recent analysis was conclusive about the need to improve Summit Avenue between Bryan Park Road and Reedy Fork Parkway: projected average daily traffic for 2030 is 22,000. This section of roadway should be tied into R-4707 because it is functionally related to the proposed interchange improvements and because a significant portion of the projected volumes on this stretch would enter and exit the area via the interchange. NCDOT has reviewed and concurred with this conclusion. MPO action to support needed TIP amendments has been requested by NCDOT. Additional analysis will be needed in 2005 before a project can be developed for the corridor south of Bryan Park Road. The requested action is to approve the resolution as presented.

Robbie Perkins moved to approve the resolution as presented; Bob Landreth seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the resolution of support as prepared.

## **3. 2004 Enhancement Projects**

Peggy Holland provided an overview of the 2004 call for enhancement projects. She noted that MPO endorsement is required for applications to be considered by NCDOT. A short time frame was provided this year, which complicated the application process somewhat. Two applications from the area will be submitted. The first application, sponsored by the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department, requests \$76,800 for construction of Phase II of the Southeast Connector pedestrian facility. The Southeast Connector will connect the Warnersville Recreation Center, Jones Elementary School, Sussman Street Park, Gillespie Golf Course, and Barber Park to each other as well as to neighborhoods and the downtown area. This phase will extend along the east side of Freeman Mill Road and Randleman Road, from Whittington Street to South Street.

The second application, sponsored by GDOT, requests \$137,500 to construct approximately 3,600 feet of multi-use path along Big Tree Way, between Shelby Drive and Guilford College Road. This project will enhance pedestrian connectivity, safety, and access to the Big Tree Natural Area, adjacent to the highly congested Wendover Avenue commercial corridor.

Bob Landreth noted that transient loitering could pose problems on the project sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department, given its location and the history of such incidents in that vicinity. Peggy Holland noted that the facility will be in sight of the roadway and lit by area street lights, design details that hopefully will limit the potential for illicit activity that Chairman Landreth noted. The requested action is to adopt the endorsing resolutions as presented.

Robbie Perkins moved to approve the resolution as presented; Bob Landreth seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to adopt the endorsing resolutions as prepared.

## **Business / Potential Action Items**

### **1. Reschedule July MPO Meetings**

Tyler Meyer noted that the currently scheduled July date will work for the LRTP/ Conformity schedule after all, and so the proposed rescheduling is no longer needed from that standpoint. No change recommended.

## **2. Bridford Parkway Extension Update**

Ed Lewis, NCDOT Public Hearing Officer, provided an update on NCDOT project U-4006, Bridford Parkway Extension to Swing Road at Burnt Poplar Road. He reviewed design details with the TAC and noted that a public workshop on the project was held on May 11, 2004. This workshop was an informal public hearing on the environmental analysis and preliminary design for the project and will be the last public meeting NCDOT will conduct on it. The final environmental analysis is expected to be complete by December 2004. Right of way acquisition is expected to begin by January 2006, with construction beginning by January 2008.

Robbie Perkins noted that Bridford Parkway will be a four-lane divided roadway, while Burnt Poplar Road is primarily a two lane facility, envisioned as a three lane facility in the future. He asked whether this would provide adequate future capacity given area freight movements and facility locations and the Bridford Parkway design. Tyler Meyer noted that staff would investigate and provide a response at a future meeting.

## **3. Congestion Management System**

Jody Lewis of Martin-Alexiou-Bryson provided an informational presentation about the draft Congestion Management System. He reviewed the analysis and recommendations, noting that continued work will be required from the MPO in this area in the future.

Robbie Perkins noted the role of freight in the MPO area and the Triad Region as a whole, and suggested the creation of a regional freight roundtable. Such a forum could be an opportunity for people in the Triad's freight industry to meet on a regular basis. The goal of the roundtable would be to promote economic development and recognize the comparative advantages that the clustering of freight industries brings to the Triad. He requested that this idea be shared with Ben Brown of the City Manager's office and Forward Greensboro, for review and investigation of its feasibility.

Tyler Meyer noted that staff would follow up on this request and that the CMS document would be finalized and brought for TAC approval at the July meeting.

## **4. LRTP Update and Next Steps**

Tyler Meyer noted that that the third round of LRTP public workshops have concluded and that staff and the consultant team are currently drafting the Long Range Transportation Plan document. The document will be available for public review between July 12 and August 11 on the MPO website and at a wide range of library and public office locations throughout the MPO area. Additionally, a public review meeting will be held on July 29 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the City Council Chambers. Stephen Stansbery provided a brief review of round three activities and findings as well as certain analysis activities. Tyler Meyer noted the document will be presented for MPO action in the August meeting. This will follow consideration of a conformity finding action, based on the Air Quality Conformity Analysis report, which will be available for public review along with the LRTP document.

## **Other Items**

### **1. Board Member Report**

Patty Eason noted current Division 7 project status and upcoming activities.

### **2. Reports, Concerns, and Discussion from MPO Area Towns**

None.

### **3. Citizen Comments**

None.

### **4. Regional Transportation News**

Scott Rhine and Sandy Carmany noted current regional transportation issues and upcoming activities.

### **5. Wrap-Up**

Don Vaughan requested that consideration be given to a change to the regular meeting schedule. His preferred time would be the fourth Wednesday from 1:45 to 3:45 pm. Staff will coordinate with TAC members regarding potential meeting schedule adjustments.

The TAC adjourned at 4:50 p.m.